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“‘Brer Squirrel, I have a brother who can jump from tree to tree.’ ‘I can, too.’ So Brer Squirrel jumped from tree to tree.

“‘Brer Squirrel, I had a brother who could jump from the top of a tall tree right into my arms.’ ‘I can, too,’ said the squirrel, and he did. Brer Fox ate him all up.

“Brer Rabbit was lying in his bed near by, and saw all that was done. ‘Brer Fox,’ said he, ‘you a mighty smart man, but I had a brother who could do something you cannot do.’

“‘What was it?’ said Brer Fox.

“‘My brother could let anybody tie a large rock around his neck, and jump off this bridge into the water and swim out.’ ‘So can I,’ said the fox. Then Brer Rabbit fixed the rock and the string, and Brer Fox jumped, but he has not been heard of since.”

LOCAL MEETINGS AND OTHER NOTICES.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN FOLK-LORE SOCIETY. — The Annual Meeting of the American Folk-Lore Society for the year 1899 will be held in New Haven, Conn., at the same time with the meeting of the American Society of Naturalists and other affiliated Societies, during the week between Christmas and the New Year, probably on December 28, 1899. Members intending to present papers will please give notice to the Permanent Secretary, W. W. Newell, Cambridge, Mass. Further information will be given concerning the arrangements hereafter to be completed.

PRESENTATION TO THE FOLK-LORE SOCIETY OF OBJECTS ILLUSTRATING MEXICAN FOLK-LORE. — During a visit to Chicago of Mr. E. S. Hartland, President of the Folk-Lore Society, Mr. Hartland was interested in pottery masks representing personages in a local Mexican Passion Play, exhibited by Prof. Frederick Starr, who has made extensive studies in the folk-lore of Mexico. Professor Starr offered to obtain such figurines for the Folk-Lore Society; but this original proposition was expanded by him into an offer to present a large collection of objects illustrating folk-lore of civilized Mexicans, on condition that the Folk-Lore Society would keep together the collection, and print a catalogue. On June 27 was held at the rooms of the Anthropological Institute a joint meeting of the Folk-Lore Society and the Institute, at which the objects were presented and explained by Professor Starr. On the previous evening the Folk-Lore Society gave a public dinner to Professor Starr at the Holborn Restaurant, the President of the Society occupying the chair. The health of Professor Starr was proposed by Mr. Andrew Lang with a suitable address. It was announced that the Society had voted to make Professor Starr an honorary member, and to present him with a complete set of the Society's publications, now amounting to forty-two volumes.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS. — In connection with the Exposition Universelle of 1900 is to be held this Congress ; the committee appeal to theologians, sociologists, ethnographers, folk-lore-ists, and others interested. The Congress will be divided into eight sections, the first including the religions of uncivilized peoples ; those of American aborigines are especially indicated. Other sections relate to Oriental, Egyptian, Semitic, Hindu, and Iranian, Greek and Roman, Germanic, Celtic and Slavic, and Christian religions. Beside French, the Latin, German, English, and Italian languages may be used in the discussions. The President of the Commission is Albert Réville ; as vice-presidents appear the names of Bertrand, Bréal, Maspero, Oppert, and Senat ; as secretaries, Marillier and Jean Réville. As especial subjects for discussion in the section of non-civilized religion are mentioned totemism, sacrifice, condition of souls after death, festivals in pre-Columbian Central America, especially among Mayas. At the present time, and in view of the attention excited by recent troubles in France, it is well to notice with respect the ability of the preparations for what should be a brilliant Congress. The date of the meeting will be from September 3 to 9.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

BOOKS.

THE INTERNATIONAL FOLK-LORE CONGRESS OF THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION. (Archives of the International Folk-Lore Association. Vol. i.) Chicago : Charles H. Sergel Company. 1898. Pp. 512.

This volume, devoted to the papers offered at the International Folk-Lore Congress of 1893, contains an extensive mass of information from all quarters of the globe. To notice the material in detail would be quite beyond the capacity of this Journal ; we shall therefore content ourselves with reference to certain articles which have appeared to us to present especial interest.

Mr. MacRitchie gives additional arguments in support of the thesis that the dwarfs of folk-lore represent primitive races of short stature. Dealing with "The Northern Trolls," he points out that early northern visitors to Greenland identified the Eskimos or Skroelings with the trolls. Such was also the case with Lapps. He considers, however, that ancient underground folk of still smaller stature gave originally the foundation for stories of mythical dwarfs.

Rev. Walter Gregor gives some account of the ceremonies used in Scotland for purposes of divination and popular medicine. When these rites were performed with water, this had to be drawn from a ford, or from below a bridge, where the dead and living were supposed to pass. The water, drawn in silence, at stated times, usually after sunset in the twilight "atween the sin (sun) and the sky," was designated "unspoken water." When a cow or other animal fell in, and the evil eye was suspected as a